



STATE OF NEVADA
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER COMMITTEE
Emergency Operations Center
JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

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Governor Guinn Announces Nevada's Role in Federal Terrorism Response Exercise

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Carson City, Nevada. August 19, 2003. Governor Kenny Guinn announced today that the State of Nevada is participating in the nation's largest terrorism response exercise, Determined Promise '03. Part of the exercise simulates a bioterrorism threat in Clark County. As other simulated emergencies unfold in Nevada and across the U.S. during the exercise, Determined Promise '03 will engage all elements of Homeland Defense, testing response capabilities at the federal, state and local levels.

"This is an invaluable opportunity to test our state's emergency response plans in a federally-funded, large-scale scenario," Guinn said. "Emergency preparedness training is an ongoing process and we jumped at the chance to work with federal agencies, such as the Department of Defense, FBI, CIA, and the Department of Homeland Security to hone our state's ability to respond to threats."

Guinn said that the state's Emergency Operations Center is now activated for the exercise and the state has been actively working with federal and Clark County officials for the past 18 months in preparation for this exercise.

This exercise will test emergency response capabilities at all levels of government by mobilizing resources to meet developing needs as the exercise unfolds. Emergencies and disasters begin at a local level. When local resources become overwhelmed, the state is requested to provide assistance. When state resources become overwhelmed, the state seeks assistance from the federal government.

The State Emergency Operation Center is the single point of coordination with local emergency responders, state agencies and the federal government, ensuring that emergency response needs are met.

"From trucks to sandbags and medicine to federal financial assistance, the state emergency operation center supports Nevada citizens and visitors in times of crisis," Guinn said. "In addition to the physical needs, timely and accurate communication is vital to the safety and security of the state during an emergency."

During this exercise the state's Joint Information Center has been activated to support the Emergency Operations Center. The Joint Information Center pools the state's public information resources in times of emergency and is comprised of state agency public information officers.

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